

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment and the following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action issued on March 1, 2005 in connection with the above-identified patent application, and are being filed within the three-month shortened statutory period set for a response by the Office Action.

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 30-35, 37, and 38 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 30 have been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claims 7 and 36, respectively. Accordingly, such claims 7 and 36 have been canceled, and such claims 1 and 30 and all claims depending therefrom are now allowable. In addition, claims 10-29 and 39-58 have been canceled as being directed to non-elected inventions. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims, consistent with the following remarks.

In a telephone conference between the undersigned and the Examiner in charge of the above-identified matter on or about February 9, 2005, the Examiner set forth a restriction requirement by identifying four groups: I - with claims 1-9 and 30-38, II - with claims 10-14 and 39-43, III - with claims 15-25 and 44-54, and IV - with claims 26-29 and 55-58. After due consideration, the undersigned orally elected group I for further prosecution in connection with the present application. Applicants hereby affirm such election of group I without prejudice to the filing of one or more continuation applications to further prosecute the inventions of groups II-IV. Consistent with such election, and to move the present application to allowance, Applicants have canceled un-elected claims 10-29 and 39-58.

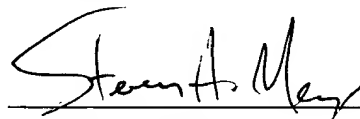
The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph for the reasons set forth in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully traverse the § 112, second paragraph rejection of such claims.

According to the Examiner, the use of 'presumably' in claims 1 and 30 and the use of 'relatively large' in now-canceled claims 7 and 36 renders the claims indefinite. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the claims to remove such offending phraseology. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, second paragraph rejection.

The Examiner has stated in the Office Action that the subject matter of now-canceled claims 7 and 36 is allowable. Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 30 to include such subject matter. As a result such claims 1 and 30 and all claims depending therefrom including claims 2-6, 8, 9, 31-35, 37, and 38 are now allowable.

In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1-6, 8, 9, 30-35, 37, and 38, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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